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PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, APRIL, 1947.

This bulletin has been prepared from detailed tabulations, made available by the Commonwealth Statistician, of unemployed persons in Queensland who were in receipt of the Commonwealth unemployment benefit at the end of April, 1947. The tabulations show districts of residence, together with causes of unemployment and industries within each district. The information which follows covers only those persons actually in receipt of unemployment benefit, no account being taken of those whose applications for the benefit are awaiting consideration or those who not apply for benefit. The figures given, therefore, are only a part of the total unemployment, although the proportions due to the various causes and in the various industries are broadly applicable to the total. Persons receiving sickness or special benefits are also excluded.

Comparison with Previous Months.

The April figures of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit were 4,698 males and 149 females, the total of 4,847 being 2,745 less than the peak figure of 7,592 for February, but 1,947 over October, 1946.

End of Month.			Males.	Females.	Total.
1946 -	October	.. ..	2,814	86	2,900
	November	.. ..	3,570	94	3,664
	December	.. ..	5,971	168	6,139
1947 -	January	.. ..	7,262	228	7,490
	February	.. ..	7,394	198	7,592
	March	.. ..	6,505	184	6,689
	April	.. ..	4,698	149	4,847

Figures earlier than October do not give a normal comparison as they were inflated by strikes of earlier months; whilst the figures for the early months of 1947 are considerably affected by seasonal unemployment. February recorded the highest number on unemployment benefit for this season; and, with seasonal industries re-employing displaced workers, the number in April was rapidly reaching a much lower level.

The number of females receiving benefit at the end of April was 149, compared with 184 for March. The Rockhampton District figure, 40, although much less than the March figure of 74, was still the highest figure recorded for any one district for the month. Brisbane District had 33 females drawing unemployment benefit at the end of April, Mackay 18, Bundaberg 16, and the balance of 42 was distributed throughout the rest of the State.

Causes of unemployment are given below for the months of October, February, March, and April, together with the decrease during April for each cause.

Cause of Unemployment.	October. 1946	February. 1947	March. 1947	April. 1947	Decrease in April.
Medical unfitness for type of work, work too heavy	109	100	97	95	2
Inefficiency, incompetence	112	144	133	109	24
Establishment closed, reduction of staff	491	854	856	741	115
Displaced by re-instated servicemen	116	131	106	99	7
Shortage of Materials	130	252	250	187	63
Seasonal work and weather conditions	276	3,327	2,598	1,489	1,109
Manual work	495	958	1,010	796	214
Discharged or laid off for other reasons	438	514	397	296	101
Dismissed because work too heavy, medically unfit, etc.	231	440	429	379	50
Dismissed for other reasons	179	324	314	263	51
Not previously employed	323	548	499	393	106
	2,900	7,592	6,689	4,847	1,842

The number of persons drawing unemployment benefit in March due to the seasonal nature of their work decreased in April by 1,109, with smaller decreases for other causes. The peak of seasonal unemployment for the State was passed in February, although it was March before the northern sugar districts recorded their highest figures; and it was the decreases in these districts during April which accounted for most of the 1,109 decrease in the seasonal work. The movements are illustrated in the following statement which shows the number of the number of persons drawing benefit in each district in October, 1946, the number in the month up to March, 1947, showing the highest level of unemployment, and the number in April, 1947, together with the increase from October, 1946, to the seasonal peak, and the subsequent decrease. It will be seen that southern districts had generally reabsorbed seasonally displaced labour before April, but that the northern districts still had a substantial pool of labour waiting for reabsorption at that date.

<u>District.</u>	<u>October,</u> <u>1946.</u>	<u>Peak of Seasonal</u> <u>Unemployment to</u> <u>April, 1947.</u>	<u>April,</u> <u>1947.</u>	<u>Increase</u> <u>October</u> <u>to peak.</u>	<u>Decrease</u> <u>Peak to</u> <u>April.</u>
Brisbane ..	1,401	2,065 (Feb. 1947)	1,523	664	542
Ipswich ..	154	190 (Dec. 1946)	63	36	127
Gympie ..	21	30 (Feb. 1947)	16	9	14
Maryborough ..	127	221 (Jan. 1947)	82	94	139
Bundaberg ..	101	596 (Jan. 1947)	388	495	208
Toowoomba ..	94	177 (Feb. 1947)	108	83	69
Warwick ..	23	42 (Dec. 1946)	19	19	23
Roma ..	10	24 (Dec. 1946)	3	14	21
Charleville ..	44	75 (Dec. 1946)	8	31	67
Rockhampton ..	345	1,462 (Jan. 1947)	419	1,117	1,045
Emerald ..	1	10 (Jan. 1947)	5	9	5
Longreach ..	12	117 (Dec. 1946)	11	105	103
Mackay ..	229	861 (Mar. 1947)	641	632	220
Ayr ..	10	233 (Feb. 1947)	64	223	169
Townsville ..	127	616 (Mar. 1947)	437	489	179
Ingham ..	7	440 (Mar. 1947)	58	433	382
Innisfail ..	15	368 (Mar. 1947)	316	353	52
Cairns ..	77	599 (Mar. 1947)	460	522	139
Charters Towers	69	182 (Feb. 1947)	169	113	13
Atherton ..	30	78 (Mar. 1947)	45	48	33
Hughenden ..	3	52 (Feb. 1947)	12	49	40
Total State:	2,900	7,592 (Feb. 1947)	4,847	4,692	2,745

#### Causes by Districts.

The attached table (No. 1) shows the main causes of unemployment in each district. The totals along the bottom of the sheet show the numbers unemployed from each cause, while the totals on the right show the numbers unemployed in each district and the number unemployed per 10,000 population in main groups of districts. Although the Moreton Division numbers are the second highest, they represent a smaller proportion of the district population than is the case for any other Division, except the Downs and South West. Comparison of the rates per 10,000 population shows the highest figures for the north coast sugar areas, although the rates for these areas are much lower than for the previous month when seasonal unemployment was at its height there.

#### Industries by Districts.

Table No. II shows the industries in which those drawing benefit are normally engaged. The totals at the foot of the sheet give the numbers in each industry group of the State. Agricultural, pastoral, and dairying industries have the highest total (20 per cent. of the total drawing unemployment benefit), and the bulk of this is in sugar farming areas. This is followed by food and drink factories (largely meatworks and sugar mills), and building and construction.



During April, in the north coast sugar areas, there was a decrease of 564 from farms, 346 from food factories (mainly sugar mills and meatworks), and 81 from building and construction. In Rockhampton, unemployment from food factories (largely meatworks and butter factories) decreased by 140. In the south coast sugar areas, field labour unemployment decreased by 58, and food and drink factory unemployment by 38, the latter decrease probably due to increased operations of butter factories. The numbers were widely distributed through the other industry groups in Brisbane, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, and Townsville districts.

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BRISBANE.

4th August, 1947.

TABLE I. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENLAND,  
APRIL, 1947.

## DISTRICTS AND CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

DISTRICT.	Discharged or Laid off								Quitted		Not previously employed.	Total	
	Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	Inefficiency, incompetence.	Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment.	Replaced by re-instated servicemen, relieving worker only.	Shortage of Materials	Seasonal work and weather conditions.	Casual work.	Discharged or laid-off for other reasons.	Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice.	Quitted for other reasons.		Number	Per 10,000 Population
Brisbane ..	35	67	349	46	99	87	207	167	186	100	180	1,523	
Brisbane ..	4	4	7	2	3	3	9	10	6	5	10	63	
Moreton ..	39	71	356	48	102	90	216	177	192	105	190	1,586	31
Empie ..	.	.	4	4	.	2	.	.	1	1	4	16	
Tryborough ..	1	4	15	1	7	9	19	7	5	10	4	82	
Indaberg ..	.	3	26	4	20	157	101	4	26	16	31	388	
S.E. Coastal	1	7	45	9	27	168	120	11	32	27	39	436	44
Nowomba ..	3	7	22	6	8	3	19	11	9	10	10	108	
Arwick ..	.	.	6	.	1	1	2	1	2	4	2	19	
ma ..	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	.	.	.	3	
Arleville	.	.	.	.	.	4	3	.	.	.	1	8	
Downs and S.W.	3	7	28	6	9	8	25	14	11	14	13	138	9
Blackhampton	10	8	60	11	12	127	72	27	28	25	39	419	
erald ..	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	2	.	5	
Agreash ..	.	2	.	1	.	5	1	.	2	.	.	11	
Central ..	10	10	60	12	12	132	73	29	31	27	39	435	43
May ..	9	2	20	3	9	366	133	23	27	18	31	641	
..	.	1	23	2	.	18	5	2	5	4	4	64	
Wissville ..	12	11	59	6	7	153	77	25	28	30	29	437	
gham ..	.	.	.	.	8	29	13	.	4	2	2	58	
Wissfail ..	5	.	19	2	5	220	35	3	15	9	3	316	
Arms ..	9	.	101	3	3	264	34	5	9	12	20	460	
E. Coastal	35	14	222	16	32	1,050	297	58	88	75	89	1,976	152
Arters Towers	6	.	23	7	5	34	37	6	21	12	18	169	
erton ..	.	.	5	.	.	4	24	1	3	3	5	45	
hendon ..	1	.	2	1	.	3	4	.	1	.	.	12	
North West	7	.	30	8	5	41	65	7	25	15	23	226	
AL STATE:	95	109	741	99	187	1,489	796	296	379	263	393	4,847	45



TABLE II. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.  
APRIL, 1947.

## DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIES.

DISTRICT.	Industry in Which Last Engaged.														TOTAL.
	Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying.	Other Primary (including mining).	Engineering.	Food and Drink.	Other Factories.	Building and Construction.	Shipping and Wharf Work.	Transport.	Wholesale.	Retail.	Previously employed by Australian or Allied Services.	Personal and Domestic Service.	Discharged Servicemen.	Other Industries.	
Brisbane ..	56	30	140	132	132	146	53	85	121	95	203	100	105	125	1,523
Swich ..	4	4	6	4	5	12	.	6	2	5	1	5	5	4	63
Moreton ..	60	34	146	136	137	158	53	91	123	100	204	105	110	129	1,586
Wpie ..	1	2	1	2	.	1	.	2	2	2	.	3	.	.	16
ryborough ..	12	5	8	14	5	13	3	8	2	7	.	4	1	.	82
Gaberg ..	137	16	10	51	9	51	42	6	11	20	6	10	8	11	388
E.Coastal ..	150	23	19	67	14	65	45	16	15	29	6	17	9	11	486
Woomba ..	13	2	10	11	8	20	.	4	2	6	8	8	3	8	108
Wick ..	4	.	1	3	1	2	.	.	.	1	1	1	1	4	19
a ..	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	3
Arleville ..	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	1	.	8
owns & S.W. ..	22	2	11	15	9	23	.	5	2	7	9	11	10	12	138
Hampton ..	45	19	11	148	15	41	35	12	17	23	4	18	17	14	419
ald ..	2	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	5
Greach ..	7	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	1	11
entral ..	54	20	12	148	15	42	35	12	17	23	4	20	17	16	435
ay ..	241	14	10	162	20	89	4	16	9	26	5	20	14	11	641
..	5	8	1	15	2	12	1	3	3	1	2	4	3	4	64
sville ..	20	11	17	164	15	67	24	10	25	17	15	19	14	19	437
am ..	21	2	1	17	4	6	2	.	.	.	1	1	2	1	58
sfail ..	189	6	4	56	8	15	17	7	.	6	.	6	.	2	316
ns ..	177	25	3	103	18	59	15	12	5	6	3	15	10	9	460
Coastal ..	653	66	36	517	67	248	63	48	42	56	26	65	43	46	1,976
ers Towers ..	33	12	5	34	9	34	.	11	2	5	2	4	6	12	169
ten ..	5	5	.	1	3	15	.	9	.	2	1	.	.	4	45
nden ..	7	1	1	1	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	12
th West ..	45	18	6	36	12	50	.	21	2	7	3	4	6	16	226
STATE:	984	163	230	919	254	586	196	193	201	222	252	232	195	330	4,847



